Listing of the Claims

Claims 1-36 (canceled).

Claim 37 (currently amended). A sanitizer composition having improved surface retention, comprising:
(a) water;
(b) about 1 ppm to about 3000 ppm of an organic peracid antimicrobial agent; and
(c) a retention aid comprising
(i) about 0.025 wt% to about 1.0 wt% of a biopolymer thickening agent, and
(ii) about 0.01 wt% to about 3.0 wt% of at least one surfactant,
wherein the sanitizer composition has a viscosity of about 3 cP to about 15000 cP at 23°C.

Claim 38 (previously presented). The composition of claim 37 further comprising a magnesium ion source.

Claim 39 (previously presented). The composition of claim 37 wherein the biopolymer thickening agent is selected from polysaccharides and heteropolysaccharides.

Claim 40 (previously presented). The composition of claim 39 wherein the polysaccharides are selected from galactomannans, glucomannans, galactans, carrageenans, polyuronic acids, pectins, glucans, alginic acids and salts thereof; and the heteropolysaccharides are selected from gellan, whelan, natural gums and waxes, starch, and arabinogalactan.

Claim 41 (previously presented). The composition of claim 37 in which the biopolymer thickening agent is selected from guar gum, a mixture of guar gum and xanthan, and a mixture of xanthan and glucomannan.

Claim 42 (currently amended). The composition of claim 37 wherein the organic peracid antimicrobial agent is [selected from] peracetic acid or a mixture of peracetic acid and another organic peracid.

Claim 43 (previously presented). The composition of claim 37 wherein the surfactant is a mixture of a non-ionic and an ionic surfactant.

Claim 44 (currently amended). The composition of claim 37 wherein the surfactant is a mixture of a non-ionic surfactant and an ionic [anionic] surfactant, the non-ionic surfactant has a polar non-ionic functional group attached to a first alkyl group having 8 to 20 carbon atoms, the ionic [anionic] surfactant has an anionic functional group attached to a second alkyl group having 8 to 20 carbon atoms, and the ratio of the non-ionic surfactant to the ionic [anionic] surfactant is about 0.1:1 to about 0.5:1.

Claim 45 (currently amended). The composition of claim 44 in which the first and second alkyl groups are straight chain, the first alkyl group is substituted with the polar non-ionic

functional group on a terminal carbon atom, and the second alkyl functional group is substituted with the anionic group on a terminal carbon atom.

Claim 46 (currently amended). The composition of claim 43 in which the non-ionic surfactant is a C_8-C_{20} alkyl alcohol and the ionic surfactant is selected from salts of sulfate esters of linear [aliphatic] C_8-C_{20} aliphatic alcohols.

Claim 47 (currently amended). The composition of claim 37 in which the surfactant comprises a mixture of

(i) lauryl alcohol and

(ii) (ii) sodium lauryl sulfate, magnesium lauryl sulfate or a mixture thereof,

wherein [a] the ratio of (i) to (ii) is about 1:1 to about 1:5.

Claim 48 (previously presented). The composition of claim 38 wherein the magnesium ion source is a magnesium salt in an amount of about 0.01 wt% to about 3.0 wt%.

Claim 49 (previously presented). A method for sanitizing a surface, comprising applying the sanitizer composition of claim 37 to the surface for a time sufficient to sanitize the surface.

Claim 50 (previously amended). The method of claim 49 wherein the sanitizer composition further includes a magnesium ion source.

Claim 51 (previously amended). A sanitizer kit comprising a first part and a second part, in which the first part comprises an aqueous solution or dispersion of an organic peracid antimicrobial agent, and the second part comprises a retention aid as defined in claim 37.

Claim 52 (currently amended). The sanitizer kit of claim 51 in which the retention aid comprises

(i) a surfactant comprising [comprises] a mixture of

a. lauryl alcohol; and

b. sodium lauryl sulfate, magnesium lauryl sulfate or a mixture thereof,

in a ratio of (i) to (ii) of about 0.1:1 to about 0.5:1, and

(ii) [the retention aid further comprises] a magnesium ion source.

Claim 53 (currently amended). The sanitizer kit of claim 52 in which the organic peracid antimicrobial agent is peracetic acid or a mixture of peracetic acid and another organic peracid, and the magnesium ion source is a magnesium salt in an amount of about 0.01 wt% to about 3.0 wt%.

Claim 54 (currently presented). A sanitizer composition having improved surface retention, comprising:

(a) water;

(b) about 1 ppm to about 3000 ppm of an organic peracid antimicrobial agent; and

(c) a retention aid comprising

(i) about 0.025 wt% to about 1.0 wt% of at least one biopolymer thickening agent; and

(ii) about 0.01 wt% to about 3.0 wt% of a surfactant mixture comprising non-ionic surfactants and ionic surfactants, the non-ionic surfactants selected from the group consisting of C_8-C_{20} alkyl alcohols and the ionic surfactants selected from the group consisting of salts of sulfate esters of linear C_8-C_{20} aliphatic alcohols,

wherein the sanitizer composition has a viscosity of about 3 cP to about 15000 cP at 23 °C.

Claim 55 (currently presented). The composition of claim 54 in which the surfactant comprises a mixture of

(iii) lauryl alcohol; and

(iv) (ii) sodium lauryl sulfate, magnesium lauryl sulfate or a mixture thereof,

wherein [a] the ratio of (i) to (ii) is about 1:1 to about 1:5.

Claim 56 (currently presented). A sanitizer kit comprising a first part and a second part, in which the first part comprises an aqueous solution or dispersion of an organic peracid antimicrobial agent, and the second part comprises a retention aid as defined in claim 54.

Claim 57 (currently presented). The sanitizer kit of claim 56 in which the retention aid comprises

(i) a surfactant comprising a mixture of

c. lauryl alcohol; and

d. sodium lauryl sulfate, magnesium lauryl sulfate or a mixture thereof,

in a ratio of (i) to (ii) of about 0.1:1 to about 0.5:1, and

(ii) a magnesium ion source.

Claim 58 (currently presented). The sanitizer kit of claim 57 in which the organic peracid antimicrobial agent is peracetic acid or a mixture of peracetic acid and another organic peracid, and the magnesium ion source is a magnesium salt in an amount of about 0.01 wt% to about 3.0 wt%.